AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A glutamine-auxotropic human cell transfected with

(a) an exogenous DNA sequence encoding a sialylated protein or an exogenous DNA sequence capable of altering the expression of an endogenous gene encoding a sialylated protein, and which exogenous DNA sequence further comprises a selectable marker selected from the group consisting of DHFR, adenosine deaminase, asparagine synthetase, aspartate transcarbamylase, metallotionein-1, omithine decarboxylase, P-glycoprotein, ribonucleotide reductase, thymidine kinase and xanthine-guanine phosporibosyl transferase, and

(b) an exogenous DNA sequence encoding a glutamine synthetase as a selectable marker,

wherein these exogenous DNA sequences are located on more than one DNA construct, wherein said DNA construct is a vector, and wherein said transfected cell is capable of producing said protein and is capable of growing in a glutamine-free and serum-free medium.

Claim 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 1, wherein the glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is an immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell.

4. (Original) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 3, wherein the immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is a human fibrosarcoma cell.

5. (Original) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 4, wherein the human fibrosarcoma cell is a HT1080 cell line.

6. (Previously Presented) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 1, wherein the transfected cell is anchorage-independent and capable of growing in suspension in serum-free and glutamine-free medium.

7. (Currently Amended) A process for producing ~~the production of~~ a sialylated protein comprising the steps of

a) culturing a glutamine-auxotrophic human cell according to claim 1 in a serum-free culture medium under conditions suitable for expression of said protein and

b) recovering said protein.

Claim 8. (Canceled)

Claim 9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 7 wherein the culture medium is serum-free and/or glutamine free.

11. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 7 wherein the culture medium is both serum free and glutamine free.

Claim 12. (Canceled)

Claim 13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 13 wherein sialylation is defined by N-glycan charge.

15. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 14 wherein said sialylated protein comprises tri, tetra- or pentasialo glycoforms of said N-glycan.

Claim 16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 16 wherein sialylation is defined by N-glycan charge.

18. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 17 wherein said sialylated protein comprises tri, tetra- or pentasialo glycoforms of said N-glycan.

19. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 7, wherein the glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is an immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell.

20. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 19, wherein the immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is a human fibrosarcoma cell.

21. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 16 wherein the sialylated protein is Erythropoietin.

22. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 21 wherein the Erythropoietin is human Erythropoietin.

23. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 13 wherein the sialylated protein is Erythropoietin.

24. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 23 wherein the Erythropoietin is human Erythropoietin.

25. (new) The process of claim 7, wherein the glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is an immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell.

26. (new) The process of claim 25, wherein the immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is a human fibrosarcoma cell.

27. (new) The process of claim 26, wherein the human fibrosarcoma cell is a HT1080 cell line.